

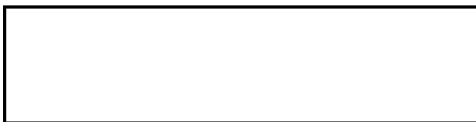


DIRECTORATE OF  
INTELLIGENCE

# *Central Intelligence Bulletin*

**Top Secret**

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Warsaw Pact: Another confrontation between the Rumanians and the Soviet Union is likely at the opening meeting today in Sofia of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee.

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[redacted] Bucharest will hope to ward off Moscow's demands for unanimous approval of the US-USSR sponsored nonproliferation treaty. Rumania opposes the treaty in its present form and probably resents being put under duress from Moscow to approve it.

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Bucharest probably will be no more forthcoming on any new declaration on European security and the German question. Moscow, East Germany and Poland want to take a harder line against Bonn's eastern policy than Bucharest would like because of its recognition of West Germany. The Rumanians also will carefully review the wording of any resolution that implies their concurrence with Soviet policy on sensitive international Communist issues, such as Vietnam.

[redacted]

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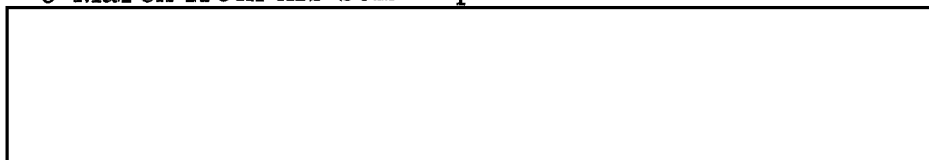
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\*Ecuador: Followers of two presidential candidates clashed in Guayaquil on 4 March, and further violence is likely before the election in June.

The groups involved were supporters of Camilo Ponce and the leading candidate, Jose Maria Velasco, whose erratic actions led to his ouster in three of his four previous presidential terms.

Velasco has announced that he will return on 9 March from his self-imposed exile in Buenos Aires.

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In a press interview on 5 March, Velasco accused interim President Otto Arosemena's administration of planning "electoral frauds" to defeat him.

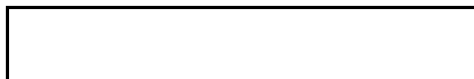
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\*Panama: Political tensions continue to rise as National Union (NU) leader Arnulfo Arias pushes for impeachment of President Robles.

In the absence of any conciliatory gesture from Robles to implement the compromise agreement reached early Monday, the Arias-controlled National Assembly is proceeding with its impeachment plans. A three-man commission appointed to investigate the charges of attempted manipulation of electoral machinery by Robles may issue its report today and request Robles to appear before the assembly for questioning.

The assembly may also vote on a date, no sooner than three days, to hear the commission's decision and to accept or reject the impeachment charges. If the accusations are upheld, Robles is required by the constitution to step aside in favor of the first vice president--an Arias supporter.

Meanwhile, Robles remains adamant in his refusal to make any compromise move. Both Robles and government candidate Samudio made a determined but unsuccessful effort yesterday to pressure National Guard Commandant Vallarino into dissolving the assembly. [redacted]

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[redacted] the government may be preparing to take some action--possibly including a suspension of constitutional guarantees--to prevent the assembly from convening again.

Both sides appear to be preparing for trouble. Arias is calling for 5,000 supporters to gather when the assembly meets, and NU media in the capital have begun to issue inflammatory reports on the activities of pro-Samudio "hoodlums." Such action in the past has been responsible for stirring up public emotion and inciting violence.

Some disorders by partisans of both Arias and Samudio have already occurred and more can probably be expected. [redacted]

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